



Facility Fact Sheet

SAVANNAH RIVER SITE (SRS)

Aiken, South Carolina

Aiken, Barnwell and Allendale Counties

Draft Hazardous Waste Permit Modification

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The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) has written a Draft Hazardous Waste Permit (permit) for the Savannah River Site (SRS) located in Aiken, South Carolina. The draft permit has been written to comply with the South Carolina Hazardous Waste Management Regulations and the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments. The changes to the permit pertain to the following areas:

- M-Area and Metallurgical Laboratory (MAML) Hazardous Waste Management Facility (HWMF)
- Mixed Waste Management Facility (MWMF)
- F-Area and H-Area (F and H Areas) Hazard Waste Management Facilities
- Tank Farms section of Appendix VIII-A Solid Waste Management Units Remedy Selection

This fact sheet explains DHEC's hazardous waste permitting process and the conditions of the draft permit. DHEC welcomes any comments you may have concerning how this fact sheet can be improved.

I. Hazardous Waste Permitting Process

DHEC regulates hazardous waste activities at permitted facilities in South Carolina. The permitting process enables DHEC and other government agencies to evaluate the ability of a facility to comply with state and federal regulations.

After a hazardous waste permit modification request or other information is received and determined to be complete, DHEC writes a draft permit containing conditions that the facility must meet.

Interested citizens are given forty-five days to review and comment on the facility's permit modification,

information and the draft permit before DHEC makes a final permit decision. Citizens may request a public hearing to learn more about the facility during the public comment period. DHEC encourages all interested persons to participate in the permitting process.

II. Facility Description

The Savannah River Site (SRS) is owned by the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and is co-operated by the Savannah River Nuclear Solutions LLC (SRNS). The SRS has produced tritium, plutonium and other special nuclear materials

or the purpose of national defense. The site covers an area just over 300 square miles near the town of Aiken, borders along the Savannah River and is comprised of a number of different facilities.

The M-Area and Metallurgical Laboratory Hazardous Waste Management Facility (MAML) lies within the A/M Area of SRS as depicted in the figure below. The MAML contains unlined settling basins and natural geographical depressions known as Carolina Bays. During operations from 1958 to 1985, these areas received liquid waste from fuel fabrication operations and the onsite lab area. The liquid waste resulted from the use of solvents and degreasers containing hazardous components. The liquids were transported by underground sewer lines to these unlined basins and from there to ditch area, outfalls, the Carolina Bays and eventually seeping into the groundwater. The basins have been closed and no longer receive any waste. The closed basins are considered hazardous waste management units. The draft permit includes corrective action and groundwater monitoring for the contamination resulting from these units. The hazardous contamination or constituents of concern, in the groundwater consists of some metals (aluminum, manganese) and chlorinated organics including trichloroethylene (TCE) and tetrachloroethylene (PCE).

The F-Area Hazardous Waste Management Facility (F-Area) consists of three unlined basins that were operated from 1955 to 1988. The basins received wastewater that had low-levels of radioactivity, limited organics and metals. The H-Area Hazardous Waste Management Facility (H-Area) consists of three unlined basins and is located near the same area of the SRS as F-Area. The basins were operated from 1955 to 1988 and received wastewater that had low-levels of radioactivity, metals and some limited organics. The basins in both F-Area and H-Area were closed in 1991. The wastewaters from the basins eventually seeped into the groundwater in both facilities. The main constituents of concern for both F-Area and H-Area are tritium and some metals.

The Mixed Waste Management Facility is a closed disposal facility centrally located in the E-Area on the SRS. It is composed of two areas of trenches used

to dispose of hazardous, mixed and radioactive waste. The RCRA permit addresses contamination resulting from the burial of the hazardous and mixed wastes as well as groundwater impacted from activities in the area. The primary contamination includes some volatile organic compounds, metals and tritium.

III. Draft Permit Requirements

The SRS proposes to evaluate the use of agricultural amendments (humate and fertilizer) for the reduction of trichloroethylene (TCE) in the groundwater located in the southern sector of the MAML. DHEC issued a temporary authorization on May 22, 2017 to allow the SRS to begin this evaluation. This fact sheet, along with a public notice, serves as the start of a public comment period for these proposed changes. DHEC will review all materials received and will consider any comments that are received during the public comment period before making a final decision on the use of the amendments in the southern sector of the MAML.

The SRS previously submitted revisions 7 and 8 to the permit application for the MAML. These revisions have been incorporated into the draft permit and are summarized in Section VI. Summary of Changes and Draft Permit Conditions table.

The F-Area and H-Area changes include the use of silver chloride for corrective action, removal of two monitoring constituents and changes to the F-Area corrective action goals.

DHEC approved changes to the Groundwater Protection Standard (GWPS) for the Mixed Waste Management Facility (MWMF). The GWPS was consolidated into one table for the MWMF. This and changes from revision 2 of the permit application are included in the Section VII table.

An Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) for Incorporating Tank 12 into the Revision 1 Interim Record of Decision Remedial Alternative Selection for the H-Area Tank Farm, Waste Tank 16 was issued and noticed in the April 20, 2017 Environmental Bulletin. Tank 12 will be added to Appendix VIII-A of the permit.

A brief outline of the changes and draft permit conditions is provided in the Summary of Changes and Draft Permit Conditions.

IV. Public Participation

The permit information and draft permit is available for public review and comment from **June 15, 2017 through July 30, 2017**.

DHEC placed a public notice in The State and Aiken Standard newspapers on June 15, 2017, announcing the beginning of the public comment period.

Citizens may request a public hearing to learn more about the facility, the permit application and the draft permit during the public comment period.

Written comments and/or requests for a formal public hearing must be submitted no later than July 30, 2017, and should be addressed to Mr. David Scaturo at the following address:

SC DHEC
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: (803) 898-2000
E-Mail: scaturdm@dhec.sc.gov

The draft permit, permit application and other related information are available for review through **July 30, 2017**, at the DHEC Columbia Office listed above and at the following location:

SC DHEC
Midlands Environmental Affairs - Aiken
206 Beaufort St. NE
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: (803) 642-1637

This fact sheet and the public notice may be viewed on DHEC's Website at

http://www.scdhec.gov/lwm/public_notice.asp.

VI. Summary of Changes and Draft Permit Conditions

The draft permit changes (5) modules listed by area in the table below. Each module and area is followed by a brief explanation of the changes and permit conditions. Module IV of the permit is for Groundwater Requirements.

Anyone who would like to be placed on DHEC's mailing list to receive future hazardous waste public notices concerning this facility should submit a written request to the attention of Ms. Norma West at the above DHEC address in Columbia or by e-mail at: westnj@dhec.sc.gov.

V. Procedure for Reaching a Final Permit Decision

All written comments received by July 30, 2017 will be considered before a final permit decision is made.

Once DHEC makes a final permit decision, notification will be provided to:

- The facility;
- Each person who submitted written comments; and
- Anyone who has requested to receive notice of the final permit decision.

Any affected person who wishes to appeal a DHEC final permit decision may do so by filing a written request for final review with DHEC's Clerk of the Board within fifteen days after the notice of the decision has been mailed.

Additional information regarding appeal procedures is available from DHEC's Clerk of the Board at the above DHEC address in Columbia or by calling (803) 898-3309.

Module IVA	M-Area and Metallurgical Laboratory HWMF	Updated tables for new wells, Groundwater Protection Standards Changes to the groundwater monitoring programs and the Corrective Action Plan for the Metallurgical Laboratory Use of humate & amendments for reduction of contamination to include a small tank system
Module IV B	F-Area HWMF	Changes to the corrective action goals Update of wells, maps and editorial changes Use of silver chloride for corrective action Removed two monitoring constituents
Module IVC	H-Area HWMF	Update of wells, maps and editorial changes Use of silver chloride for corrective action Removed two monitoring constituents
Module IVD	Mixed Waste Management Facility (MWMF)	Changes to the groundwater protection standards and updates for corrective action for groundwater plumes
Module VIII Appendix A	Solid Waste Management Unit Remedy Selection - Tanks Farms	Annual visible engineered barriers inspections and maintenance is the selected alternative for Tank 12 in the H-Area Tank Farm.

